



General Assembly

Substitute Bill No. 1298

January Session, 2007

* SB01298GL 031307 *

AN ACT CONCERNING SHORTHAND REPORTERS.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

1 Section 1. Section 20-656 of the general statutes is repealed and the
2 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective January 1, 2008*):

3 (a) The board may suspend or revoke the license of a shorthand
4 reporter under subdivision (7) of section 21a-7 if the holder of such
5 license: (1) Has been convicted of a felony, or (2) has been found by the
6 board, after a hearing conducted in accordance with chapter 54 and
7 regulations adopted pursuant to subsection (a) of section 21a-9 of: (A)
8 Gross incompetence, (B) malpractice, (C) unethical conduct, (D)
9 knowingly making a false, misleading or deceptive representation
10 relating to his or her work as a shorthand reporter, or (E) violating
11 regulations adopted pursuant to this chapter.

12 (b) Any person who has had a license suspended or revoked
13 pursuant to subsection (a) of this section may reapply to the board for
14 reinstatement of such person's license immediately after the license
15 suspension period has elapsed or not later than ninety days after the
16 license has been revoked.

17 (c) In addition to any action that may be taken by the board
18 pursuant to subsection (a) of this section or subsection (c) of section
19 21a-9, the board may suspend or revoke the license of a shorthand

20 reporter under subdivision (7) of section 21a-7 for:

21 (1) Failing to deliver a transcript to a client or a court in a timely
22 manner;

23 (2) Producing an incomplete transcript, except upon the order of a
24 court, agreement of the parties or request of a party;

25 (3) Failing to charge all parties or their attorneys the same rate for
26 like services performed in a proceeding, including any charge for a
27 copy of the transcript;

28 (4) Failing to notify all parties or their attorneys of a request for all
29 or part of a transcript in sufficient time for copies to be prepared and
30 delivered to such parties or attorneys simultaneously with the delivery
31 of the original request;

32 (5) (A) Giving, directly or indirectly, any gift, incentive, reward or
33 other thing of value to an attorney, the attorney's clients, or the
34 representatives or agents of such attorney or clients, or (B) directly or
35 indirectly benefiting from or being employed as a result of any gift,
36 incentive, reward or other thing of value given by any person to an
37 attorney, the attorney's clients, or the representatives or agents of such
38 attorney or clients;

39 (6) The reporting of any proceeding where the licensed shorthand
40 reporter is a relative of a party to the proceeding or an attorney
41 representing a party to the proceeding within the second degree by
42 affinity or consanguinity; or

43 (7) The reporting of any proceeding where the licensed shorthand
44 reporter has a financial interest in the proceeding or is associated with
45 a firm which has a financial interest in the proceeding.

46 (d) A shorthand reporter licensed pursuant to this chapter shall
47 display his or her shorthand reporter license number on any business
48 card, stationery, transcript, advertisement or other document used by
49 such reporter and pertaining to his or her practice of shorthand

50 reporting.

51 (e) The board may, after a hearing conducted in accordance with
 52 chapter 54 and regulations adopted pursuant to subsection (a) of
 53 section 21a-9, impose a civil penalty of not more than one thousand
 54 dollars on any person who engages in activities for which a license is
 55 required pursuant to this chapter or who violates any other provisions
 56 of this chapter or of regulations adopted pursuant to this chapter.

57 Sec. 2. (NEW) (*Effective July 1, 2007*) The Commissioner of Consumer
 58 Protection may adopt regulations, in accordance with the provisions of
 59 chapter 54 of the general statutes, to set minimum requirements for
 60 allowing persons to engage in the practice of shorthand reporting for
 61 compensation in this state for not more than two years without a
 62 license required pursuant to chapter 400l of the general statutes. Such
 63 regulations shall allow such persons to engage in the practice of
 64 shorthand reporting only under the direct supervision of a person
 65 licensed as a shorthand reporter pursuant to chapter 400l of the general
 66 statutes and shall impose a registration fee of fifty dollars per year.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	<i>January 1, 2008</i>	20-656
Sec. 2	<i>July 1, 2007</i>	New section

GL *Joint Favorable Subst.*